

SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS

No.

Opinion Delivered 1-10-08

IN RE: THE RESIGNATION OF
CHRISTOPHER THOMAS AS
ARKANSAS LAWYER ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

PER CURIAM

The Arkansas Lawyer Assistance Program (ALAP) was established on December 7, 2000, in order to help members of the Bar of Arkansas, their colleagues, and families find direction and hope when struggling with alcoholism, drug abuse, physical disability, aging, and trauma. Christopher Thomas is a founding committee member and has served as the secretary/treasurer of ALAP since March 22, 2001.

During his tenure as secretary/treasurer, Christopher Thomas helped develop a lawyer assistance program that has become a model for rural states throughout the country. He helped establish and oversee a revolving loan fund for impaired judges and lawyers for the purposes of defraying the costs of treatment. Through his tenacity, dry sense of humor, and high standard for integrity, Christopher Thomas has provided direction and support to ALAP staff and fellow committee members. He oversaw the development of procedures by which ALAP operates, such as the inclusion of immunity for the staff and committee members and the revocation of the “sunset” provision, allowing ALAP to continue to operate pending

further orders of the court. Through prevention and education efforts provided to legal professionals, Christopher Thomas has significantly increased awareness of impairment, intervention, and treatment options.

The Arkansas Supreme Court takes this opportunity to acknowledge with pleasure the achievements of Christopher Thomas and express our sincere appreciation to him for his seven years of public service on behalf of judges and lawyers in the State of Arkansas and his dedication to promoting the health and well being of the legal community.